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be regretted therefore that it exhibits such a sore lack of methodical arrangement. There is absolutely no clue to the author's intentions, and the whole is one tremendous mass of interesting but unorganised facts. Added to this is an asperity and intricacy of style which renders the work almost inaccessible to readers who are not thoroughly familiar with the anfractuosities of the German syntax. In this respect Bastian is unequalled even by the worst of German writers. We shall quote merely one sentence taken at random, where, it is safe to say, the author is in his most elegant and lightest stylistic mood. There are plenty such in the work. He is speaking of the Buddhistic world-conception, and of the iron concatenation of cause and effect. The sentence is found at page 205 of the Proceedings of the Berlin Anthropological Society, April, 1894. It reads :

"Je nach den periodischen Zerstörungen,—durch Wasser (in vorübergehenden "Sinthfluthen und ihren in rechtzeitig gebauter Arche geschützten Coxcox oder "Noah), durch Feuer (in stoischer 'Ekpurosis'), durch Erdbeben (auf der Quichés "volcanischem Boden), durch Sturm (im antillischen Huracan)—, reicht nun die "Vernichtung weiter hinauf in die Rupaloka, so dass für die (nicht mehr by Stock "und Stein als Fetischismus stockenden, und auch) durch den Aufblick zu (side- "rischen) θεοὶ ὄπατοι (in des Inca's Zweifel) noch unbefriedigten Gedankenreihen, "[wenn über die Thronessel (in Chlorus' 'sede caelesti') hinüber oder neben apo- "stolisch drittem, zweistöckigem Himmel (bei Severian) bis zu dem orthodox sieben- "ten (auch im Islam) reichend] ein Nichts entgegengähnt (in Immaterialität der, "ihrer Meditation geweihten, Terrassen),—ein Nichtsein, das (auf den Grenzen von "Sat und Asat, das Regen vedischen Tad's erwartend) in Sein umzuschlagen hätte, "nach philosophisch schönrednerischen Phrasen (bei Actualisirung des Poten- "tiellen)."

Compulsory courses in such rhetorical antics would set at rest forever the debates on the relative merits of language and science study. But with all these drawbacks the works of Professor Bastian are indispensable to ethnologists, constituting the sources of the subject as gathered by a man of sure perceptions and uncommon scientific abilities. The historical student and general reader, however, will have to wait until most of it is elaborated in a different and more intelligible form.

T. J. McC.

SYSTEMATISCHE PHYLOGENIE DER PROTISTEN UND PFLANZEN. By *Ernst Haeckel*. Berlin : Georg Reimer. 1894. Pages, 400. Price, M. 10.

The fundamental idea of a general phylogeny of the world of organic forms was broached by Professor Haeckel in 1866 in his *General Morphology*, and shortly afterwards developed in a more popular form in his *Natural History of Creation*. As the phylogenetic materials were scanty at that period, the author's researches were limited to the merest outlines of a history of the race ; in the necessity of the case a rigorous scientific demonstration was impossible. The author now attempts such a demonstration, in the light of the materials recently furnished by palæon-

tology, ontogeny, and morphology. Thus, the reader will find incorporated here the results of thirty years of fruitful research.

Professor Haeckel's point of view has remained practically the same as when he first promulgated the idea. It is his aim to reach a scientific knowledge of the organic forms and of the causes that produce them by a study of the causal relations obtaining between phylogeny and ontogeny, the history of the race and the history of the individual. As is well known, he vigorously opposes the new theories of embryology and heredity, upholding in contradistinction to the latter the doctrine of progressive inheritance. There is much philosophical discussion and speculation in the work, as must be, for phylogeny, like historical biology, is a hypothetical science and can never hope to gain access to all the materials that would verify its conjectures. The tables of descent and the genealogical trees which Professor Haeckel has traced out are for this reason not put forward as perfected and rigid plans, but are to be taken simply as attempts at a reconstruction of ancestral history, and as indicating the way in which, according to our present knowledge, future phylogenetic research is perhaps to be best conducted. In cases of doubt, parallel hypotheses have been suggested.

The present work is not a text-book, but presupposes considerable knowledge of natural history on the part of its readers. Nevertheless, Professor Haeckel's style is delightfully lucid, and what with his explicit explanations of new terms and his profuse use of diagrams and counter-references, the intelligent reader who has access to a good compendium of natural history will not only have no difficulty, but will experience considerable pleasure, in the perusal of portions of this work. The volume before us treats of Protists and Plants, and is to be followed before the close of the year by the two other parts on vertebrate and invertebrate animals. A number of the most important sections of the present volume have been translated and are appearing in the current numbers of *The Open Court*. μ.

PSYCHO-THÉRAPIE. By *Doctors A. W. Van Renterghem and F. Van Eeden*. Paris: Société d'éditions scientifiques, 4 Rue Antoine Dubois. 1894. Pages, 291. Price, frs. 7.50.

By psychotherapy the authors understand not exclusively hypnotism, but the art of curing by psychical means generally. They claim that their work, as contained in this report of the Suggestive Clinic of Amsterdam, has yielded satisfactory results, notwithstanding the brief period of the existence of this branch of methodical medicine, and the opposition which it has met with in professional quarters. They point, it is said, to a fundamental revision of the principles of therapeutics. The book, which is addressed mainly to the medical public, consists of a complete statistical record of clinical observations made in the Clinic of Amsterdam from 1889 to 1893. The authors discuss in the introduction the general principles of therapeutics and some important fundamental biological problems. μ.